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OUR NATION.

O Morning Land, thou art wondrous fair!
The dawn is glad on thy thousand hills!
Thine is the hope for the future's need,
With Freedom for gospel and Peace for creed;
Stretched are thine arms to save and spare,
Balm of sweet healing thy touch distils.

Armorless art thou from head to heel;
Bare is thy breast to the death-smiting guns;
But who shall dare thee, while love is bold,
While treasure of heroes is richer than gold,
While stronger than armor of thrice-welded steel
Is that of the Nation which beareth such sons.

—Mary Elizabeth Blake.

HOWARD ON SHERMAN.

In a recent address on the life and character of General Sherman, General Howard read Sherman's own account of the grand review at Washington in 1865, when 65,000 men marched before the President and the chief officers of the United States, at the close of the civil war, and closed with the following eloquent tribute to his old commander:

"That great army has been dissolved, the last procession, filled with sorrow instead of gladness, with aching hearts and eyes filled with tears, followed him solemnly from New York to his last resting place on the banks of the Mississippi. A few ears caught the last cry of his devoted son at his open grave as he heralded the lesson of his departure and sounded the voice of his resurrection.

"Now comrades and friends, let us not, in the presence of great facts and greater faith, be filled with sorrow, but with joy—joy at the great work of a great man—joy at the recognition at the grand review—joy at his choice cleansing power of an Infinite Spirit; yea! triumphant joy at the great hosts which his ever-growing soul has at last joined!

"Lift up your heads, oh ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors! The King of glory himself is yonder to fit him for and put him into the niche which, in eternity, he is to fill."

"All great men go to Heaven," said a venerable man who heard this. Do they? Sherman was a better man than Napoleon, but Napoleon was a greater man than Sherman as warriors go.

OUR INVITATIONS DECLINED.

At the Pan-American Congress, held at Washington last year, a permanent treaty of arbitration was signed by the representatives of ten of the independent States of America. A resolution was afterward adopted by the Congress of the United States, in accordance with which, Mr. Blaine, as Secretary of State, addressed a proposal to several of the European Governments suggesting that they should enter into a similar treaty. We learn that the English, German and Russian Governments simply acknowledged the receipt of Mr. Blaine's communication, the last-named adding that the question is immature. France expressed sympathy with the principle of arbitration. Italy, Austria and Sweden had not replied, according to our latest information. Switzerland had given a favorable reply.

ENGLISH PEACE NOTES.

The Rev. Dr. Mackennal, of Bowdon, Cheshire, who is to be Dr. Hannay's successor as Secretary of Congregational Union of England and Wales, in a letter to Mr. W. Evans Darby, the Secretary of the Peace Society, 47, New Broad Street, E. C., says: "You will be glad to know that the Church of which I am Pastor has determined on giving the usual Communion Collection, on the first Sunday in May, to your Society." The Rev. Canon Benham, B. D., who is a member of the Executive Committee of the Peace Society, has also sent to the Society the annual offertory to its funds from his Church, St. Edmunds, Lombard Street, London. The May issue of the Religious Tract Society's illustrated magazine, The Leisure Hour, contains an instructive paper on the recent development and progress of International Arbitration, by Mr. William Tallack, Secretary of the Howard Association. The President of the Orange Free States writes to Mr. W. E. Darby, from the Government Office, Bloemfontein, thanking him for a letter and Peace literature. He adds an expression of his desire: "that your Society may flourish and be the means of bringing about that much-desired good, namely, the prevention of warfare amongst the civilized nations of the world;" and the President concludes, "with all good wishes for your Society." A general and permanent Treaty of Arbitration has been signed between the United States and Switzerland. Both Republics undertake at all times to submit to Arbitration any dispute that may arise between them. President Harrison, in returning the draft, adhering to the Swiss proposal, appended to it the suggestion that other nations might adhere to the Treaty by signing a copy to be deposited with the United States Government. The Pope has been finally chosen as mediator between Belgium and Portugal for the settlement of the Mouata Yamvo question.—Herald of Peace.

ALSACE-LORRAINE.

M. Léon Marillier writes to Concord that it is essential to distinguish between the entirely different circumstances of the two provinces, that while Lorraine is French to the heart's core, and will never give up its claim to belong to France, Alsace is separated from the latter by "language, habits and modes of thought." While, therefore, she has been alienated forever from Germany by the German administration of the last twenty years, she might consent to accept the position of a free and autonomous State. M. Marillier adds that the greatest tact must be exercised in bringing about this "transaction," and that recourse should be had to the good offices of a mediating Power. He adds that, if Frenchmen continue to stick to this policy of "all or nothing," it is doubtful whether they will ever succeed in obtaining anything. His solution then, is (1) Restitution of Lorraine; and (2) Neutralization of Alsace. Will not Germany be equally reasonable, and will not the British Government earn the lasting gratitude of Europe by being the "mediating Power"? So long as this question remains unsettled, and both nations are content to reply to all proposals "non possumus," there is no security or true prosperity for Europe.—H. P.

[&]quot;There is as much heroism in the mission field as on the battlefield."